



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Rocky Mountain National Park

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Rocky Mountain National Park News Release

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For Immediate Release
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Longs Peak Rescue Taking Place

At approximately 11:00 a.m. this morning, Thursday, September 8, Rocky Mountain National Park dispatch received a call that a 37 year-old-male had fallen 20 feet along the Keyhole Route near the top of the Trough on Longs Peak and broken his leg. The initial call came to park dispatch through Larimer County dispatch and was from someone on a cellular phone who was with the victim.

He is at approximately 13,600 feet, the summit of Longs Peak is 14,259 feet. An initial "hasty" team left the trailhead at 11:35 a.m. One ranger reached the patient at 2:28 p.m. The trailhead of Longs Peak is at 9,400 feet and it is 7.5 miles to the summit of Longs Peak.

A Lama helicopter from Transaero in Fort Collins is assisting, flying park rangers to the summit of Longs Peak. A paramedic from the Estes Park Medical Center left the Longs Peak trailhead at 1:20 p.m. Depending on weather and other conditions, park staff plan to conduct a technical rescue raising the victim in a litter up the Trough and the west face to the summit of Longs Peak for an air ambulance transport.

Approximately 17 people are involved in this incident. There are some other hikers who are with the victim, one is a registered nurse. We do not know whether the victim was hiking with anyone. We are not releasing name or hometown of the victim at this time. The spot weather forecast calls for a chance of increased rain showers this afternoon.

-NPS-

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